

Appln. No.:  
Amdt. dated:  
Preliminary Amendment

**REMARKS**

The Specification has been amended to amend the cross-reference to related applications. No new matter has been entered. Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 50-2140. TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Perry', written over a horizontal line.

Kimberly V. Perry  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 43,612

United States Surgical, a division of  
TYCO HEALTHCARE GROUP LP  
150 Glover Avenue  
Norwalk, CT 06856  
(203) 845-4562